

# ITEMS OF INTEREST

## SENIOR SECTION

### SENIORS: IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES AND SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS:

Please let us know when you've been accepted to a college or university and if you are the recipient of any scholarships. The Guidance Office uses this information for reporting on the district and state level....and, we want to celebrate with you! When reporting a scholarship please bring in the award letter, if possible. This will insure we have documented the correct title and award amount. Thank you.

#### *Applying for a Scholarship?*

*The Guidance Office needs 10 school days to process a transcript for you. Please plan accordingly. If the scholarship application requires additional paperwork be filled out, please make an appointment with your counselor or Mrs. McCurk.*

*Thank You!*

#### **A Notice About Financial Aid Deadlines:**

Colleges and universities have their own financial aid deadlines that need to be followed. Once you have been accepted, be sure to find out from Admissions when is the deadline for filing the required paperwork.

#### **SENIORS**

***The booklet of local scholarships is ready! Please stop by the Guidance Office to pick up a copy.***

### **GENTLEMEN IN THE CLASS OF 2005**

**ON YOUR 18<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY YOU MUST REGISTER WITH THE SELECTIVE SERVICE IN ORDER TO STAY ELIGIBLE FOR MONEY FOR COLLEGE, QUALIFY FOR JOB TRAINING OR FEDERAL JOBS. AGAIN, FAILURE TO REGISTER WHEN YOU ARE 18 YEARS OLD MAY ELIMINATE YOUR CHANCES OF RECEIVING FINANCIAL AID.**

**VISIT [WWW.SSS.GOV](http://WWW.SSS.GOV) TO REGISTER**

## JOHN AND ABIGAIL ADAMS SCHOLARSHIP

Shrewsbury High School is proud to announce that 89 Shrewsbury High seniors have been named recipients of the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship Program. Letters were mailed home from Governor Mitt Romney to those students who qualified.

Through this program, 13,000 Massachusetts students have qualified for four years of free tuition at one of the state's public colleges and universities. These students from the Class of 2005 were among the top scorers on the MCAS exam.

Beginning with this year's senior class, the Adams scholarship is open to all public school students who score in the Advanced category on either the English or Math section of the MCAS test and at least in the proficient category on the other section by the end of their junior year. The students' MCAS scores must also rank in the top 25 percent of their school district to qualify.

Students who receive the Adams scholarship must complete their college program in four years or less, attend full-time, maintain a 3.0 GPA and annually complete the FAFSA form for financial aid. The scholarship does not cover fees or room and board and values approximately \$700-\$1,700 a year depending on the school. Adams scholarship recipients must enroll in a MA public college immediately after high school in order to qualify.

### *The Stanley Koplik Award:*

The Massachusetts Department of Education's Koplik Award is given to academically talented students who meet a number of different criteria. The first criterion that pre-qualifies a student is scoring 'Advanced' on at least one grade 10 MCAS test subject, and score 'Proficient' or 'Advanced' on the remaining subjects tested in the grade 10 MCAS. The Department of Education is pleased to announce that the Koplik Award will be presented this year and will be contingent on annual funding. The award has a value of \$700-\$1,700 and does not cover fees, room or board. The award is valid for 8 continuous semesters of study where the student maintains a 3.3 GPA as measured at the end of each academic year.

Letters were mailed to qualified students to begin the process of applying for the award. Please see Miss Zona, in the Guidance Office, for an application. Students will also need to gather documentation from other testing, such as the SAT II, AP exams or other academic achievements. The deadline for applying is May 2, 2005. \*\*\*Please note: Students could qualify for both the Stanley Koplik Award and the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship Program. However, a student can not receive funding from both. Miss Zona can be reached at 508-841-8827, or in the Guidance office with questions.

# Mark Your Calendars: Important Dates

Evening High School Forms Due	February 7
Quinsig Decision Day	February 8
Becker Decision Day	February 9
Parent Forum	February 17
February Break	February 21-25
Course Selection Week	February 28-March 4
Curriculum Night	March 3
Class of 2006 College Planning Night	March 31
Junior College Fair	April 12
Academic Awards Night	May 24

*(see newsletter for more details on these special events and dates)*

## SAT Dates

SAT	DEADLINE
March 1	register by February 7
May 7 (held at SHS)	register by March 25
June 4	register by April 29

Register for the SAT at  
[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

## College Fair for Juniors

Every April, the Guidance Department takes a trip to the Bay Side Expo Center with Juniors to attend one of the largest college fairs in the area. Hundreds of colleges and universities from all over the U.S. will be there. This is scheduled for Tuesday, April 12, 2005. More information will follow. And remember, this is for Juniors only!

## SAT Prep Course

SHS is proud to announce an SAT Prep Course to be held at the high school.

A practice test will be held on February 12 with classes to begin on March 1, 2005 and run eight weeks through May preparing for the May 7 SAT test date. Classes are held Tuesdays or Thursdays from 5:30-8:30pm. Instruction will include Math and English skills, writing skills, test-taking tips and practice tests.

All Junior students should have received a mailing, including application, at home. Please see Mr. O'Connell if you need a new application or if you have questions. He can be reached at 508-841-8852.

Cost: \$350.00 made payable to SHS SAT Prep Course. Mail to Gerald O'Connell, Shrewsbury High School, 64 Holden Street, Shrewsbury, MA 01545

## FOCUS ON GUIDANCE

February 2005

# Shrewsbury High School

We hope your New Year is off to a great start! We are busy as ever in the Guidance Office. To date, **we have processed over 1,350 college applications to over 200 different colleges!** Our seniors are setting their sights high and it's wonderful to see all the acceptances that are coming in. The hunt is on for scholarships, course selection for our underclassmen is right around the corner and the new SAT will be administered for the first time in March. There is so much going on in Guidance; we encourage you to read on, ask questions, and keep informed. Let us know how we can help you!

### **A notice to all freshmen and sophomores:**

If you have not already met your counselor, please stop in to make an appointment. It's important to acquaint yourself with your counselor, the guidance office and the many ways we can help you.

### **PARENT FORUM – FEBRUARY 17, 2005**

SHS would like to invite parents of freshmen and sophomores to a parent forum. The topics covered will include future planning for your student in regard to course scheduling, college planning or career planning.

**7:00PM SHS AUDITORIUM**

## Guidance Department Staff

Miss Jammie Zona	Grades 9 & 11	A-K	508-841-8827
Mr. Thomas Nault	Grades 9 & 11	L-Z	508-841-8834
Ms. Gracelyn Matson	Grade 10	A-L	
	Grade 12	A-K	508-841-8829
Ms. Kathy Floyd	Grade 10	M-Z	
	Grade 12	L-Z	508-841-8818
Mr. Nick DiPilato	Grades 9-12	A-Z	508-841-8824
Mrs. Gail King	Registrar		508-841-8813
Mrs. Susie McGuirk	Guidance Paraprofessional		508-841-8815
Mr. Jay Costa	Career Counselor		508-841-8830

Please feel free to contact your child's guidance counselor directly with questions or concerns. **Our office hours are 7:15am-2:20pm.**

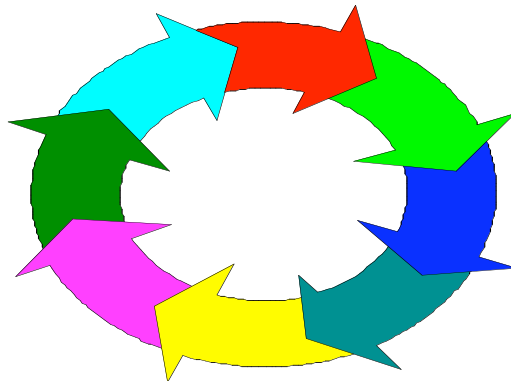
To Students and Parents:

Thank you for your continued patience as we work through this very busy time of year. Please allow plenty of time in making appointments and let us know how we can help you!

## Course Selection

The week of February 28, 2005 Guidance Counselors will be visiting all Grade 9-Grade11 classrooms to discuss course selection. Be ready with your questions!

The night of March 3, 2005 SHS will hold a Curriculum Night geared toward parents of 8<sup>th</sup> graders to prepare students and parents for the freshmen year at SHS. The meeting will be held at 7:00pm in the SHS Auditorium.



## **CLASS OF 2006: COLLEGE PLANNING NIGHT**

**MARCH 31, 2005 7:00PM IN THE SHS AUDITORIUM**  
**PLAN ON ATTENDING THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATIONAL**  
**MEETING WITH YOUR PARENTS. THIS IS YOUR FIRST**  
**INTRODUCTION TO THE COLLEGE PROCESS...YOU DON'T WANT**  
**TO MISS OUT!**

## Career Day

On Wednesday, March 9, 2005, SHS will hold a school wide Career Day. The event is scheduled from 7:30am-11:30am and will allow students to visit various speakers on the topics of career and higher education choices. Speakers will represent a number of different areas like law, business, restaurant services, science, health, automotive areas, education and more. See Mr. Costa in the Guidance Office, call 508-841-8830 or email [jcosta@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:jcosta@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us) with questions.

## ***A Reminder to Seniors Applying for Scholarships:***

### ***THE PROCESS FOR LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS:***

- \* Students pick up a booklet in the Guidance office that lists the local scholarships***
- \* The booklet gives a brief description of the scholarship, the award amount, the eligibility requirements, the criteria for submitting an application, and mailing information.***
- \* Applications will be available February 1, 2005 and will be due March 25, 2005.***
- \* It is the student's responsibility to mail scholarship materials directly.***
- \* The Guidance Office needs 10 business days to process a needed transcript. Please allow plenty of time!***

### ***THE PROCESS FOR CORPORATE, NATIONAL OR ORGANIZATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS:***

- \* Various organizations contact the Guidance office by mail.***
- \* A notice is sent to Senior English classes where it is posted and announced. A copy of the same notice is put up on the bulletin board outside the Guidance Office.***
- \* Every notice gives information regarding eligibility and deadlines for a particular scholarship. Please note: these scholarships have a variety of deadlines over which the Guidance office has no control.***
- \* Students can pick up blank copies of the scholarship application in the Guidance office.***
- \* It is the students' responsibility to execute the appropriate steps needed to submit a completed scholarship application.***
- \* It is the student's responsibility to mail scholarship materials directly.***
- \* If students do their own scholarship search on the Internet, they are responsible for procuring the appropriate paperwork needed to complete an application.***
- \* The Guidance Office needs 10 business days to process a needed transcript. Please allow plenty of time!***